

wells. As far as I'm concerned with respect to this particular bill, I leave it to your good judgment as to whether you want to do this or not. Either way it doesn't damage the main thrust of the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENSON: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Speaker and members of the body, this is an amendment that I was talking a while ago about and I asked Senator Bromm about, and I stand to support this because I don't think they should be required with 50 gallons or less and I realize maybe there was some on both sides of the issue when it came up, but I think in rural Nebraska I don't think we would want that in this bill like this on 108 so I stand to support this amendment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENSON: Thank you, Senator Jones. Senator Dierks followed by Senator Elmer.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. The amendment I think is fairly simple and straightforward and it does provide for us an opportunity to help the personal water well requirements, requirements of those people who want to drill new water wells for their own personal use. And I think if you remember LB 229 last year, we tried to repeal registration of small capacity domestic wells. That did not occur. When registration of domestic wells was first required was by LB 131 in '94. The fiscal note estimated domestic wells are as much as 75 to 80 percent of all new wells drilled each year and, therefore, it would increase the revenues to the well registration program and the well drillers and contractors licensing program substantially. Actual additional revenue from domestic wells has fallen short of those projections, but it has added substantially to revenues for some of the programs so I would urge that you support this amendment and provide for what the amendment does in allowing these wells to be drilled without those special permits.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENSON: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Dierks, would you respond to a question?